

Message Text

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS (TRATTNER)

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TAGS: SOPN OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTAGE (12/8/76)

NO. 9

1. UPI (ANDERSON FROM BRUSSELS)

"SECRETARY KISSINGER BEGAN MAKING HIS FINAL FAREWELLS TO WESTERN EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES WEDNESDAY, LOOKING BACK OVER HIS YEARS AS MOLDER OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY WITH SOME SATISFACTION."

KISSINGER HELD A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH OTHER NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS, GIVING A FINAL ASSESSMENT OF THE WORLD SITUATION AND REVIEWING AMERICA'S RELATIONS WITH ITS EUROPEAN ALLIES. HE ALSO HEARD THEIR OPINIONS.

KISSINGER SAID HE WOULD "PASS ON TO MY SUCCESSORS" VIEWS GLEANED FROM HIS MEETINGS WITH HIS EUROPEAN OPPOSITE NUMBERS.

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IN A SERIES OF STATEMENTS. KISSINGER AGREED WITH

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RUMSFELD, THAT THE ALLIANCE IS
SHOWING ENCOURAGING SIGNS OF UNITY.

KISSINGER HAD A BREAKFAST MEETING WITH SIR CHRISTOPHER
SOAMES, CO-PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY EXECUTIVE
COMMISSION AND SOON TO LEAVE OFFICE AS WELL. AFTERWARDS,
A SPOKESMAN SAID, "THE TWO MEN COULD LOOK BACK TO 1973
WITH SOME SATISFACTION."

THEN KISSINGER DROVE TWO BLOCKS TO THE ROYAL PALACE
WHERE HE HAD A PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH BELGIUM'S KING
BAUDOUIN.

HE LATER SPENT 30 MINUTES WITH JORDAN'S CROWN PRINCE
HASSAN. AFTERWARDS, KISSINGER SAID, "IT WAS A GOOD
OPPORTUNITY TO GET HIS HIGHNESS' VIEWS ON THE MIDDLE EAST,
WHICH I'LL PASS ON TO MY SUCCESSORS."

KISSINGER ALSO MET NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND
FOR TALKS THAT CENTERED ON BORDER DISPUTES BETWEEN NORWAY
AND THE SOVIET UNION, AND DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER
STOEL.

THE OUTGOING SECRETARY OF STATE THEN MET WEST GERMAN
FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER FOR 90 MINUTES AT THE U.S.
AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.

2.AP (SCHWEID FROM BRUSSELS)

DEFENSE MINISTERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AGREED
TODAY THAT THEY NEED TO UPGRADE THEIR AGING AIR DEFENSE
SYSTEMS. BUT WEST GERMAN POLITICAL PROBLEMS DELAYED A
FINAL DECISION ON AMERICAN-PROPOSED 2.5 BILLION
DOLLARS AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM.

A COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE TWO-DAY NATO MEETING SAID
"FINANCIAL ASPECTS" WOULD BE TAKEN UP BY EXPERTS IN
JANUARY WITH A FINAL DECISION LEFT UP TO THE DEFENSE
MINISTERS.

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JOSEPH LUNS, THE ALLIANCE'S SECRETARY GENERAL, SAID "A
SLIGHT POSSIBILITY" REMAINS THAT THE SYSTEM WOULD NOT BE
ADOPTED. BUT U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY DONALD RUMSFELD SAID
HE WAS "VERY ENCOURAGED" BY THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING.

"THERE WAS A VERY REAL RECOGNITION OF THE CORRECTNESS OF
THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES' JUDGEMENT THAT AN AIRBORNE EARLY
WARNING CONTROL SYSTEM IS, IN FACT, A NECESSITY,"

RUMSFELD TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE.

"THE INCREASED RANGE AND PAYLOAD OF THEIR AIR POWER HAS PROVIDED THEM WITH A DEEP PENETRATION CAPABILITY," THE COMMUNIQUE SAID. "THE MOBILITY, FIREPOWER AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT OF (WARSAW PACT) GROUND FORCE UNITS HAVE BEEN INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY."

THE NATO MINISTERS AGREED THAT "REAL ANNUAL INCREASES IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURE" WERE REQUIRED TO OFFSET RISING SOVIET STRENGTH.

RUMSFELDSAID HE WOULD LEAVE OFFICE IN SIX WEEKS WITH "A GOOD DEAL OF OPTIMISM" ABOUT NATO'S FUTURE. ROBINSON

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